

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 VIENTI 02397 071417Z

60

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-10 SCS-03 SCA-01 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02

SS-15 L-02 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 H-02 /061 W

----- 021847

R 070821Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3237

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

CINCPAC

CDR JCRC CP SAMAE-SAN THAI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE VIENTIANE 2397

D/PW FOR SIEVERTS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MOPS, CASC, LA, VN

SUBJ: MIA GROUP

REF: VIENTIANE 2235

1. DURING VISIT VIENTIANE MARCH 27-APRIL 5, MIA GROUP RECEIVED GENERAL OVERVIEW OF POLITICAL SITUATION IN LAOS FROM AMBASSADOR AND OTHER EMBASSY OFFICERS AND UPDATE ON MIA SITUATION SINCE THEIR LAST VISIT IN JULY 1974. LATTER AREA INCLUDED DISCUSSION OF (A) DECISION BY JOINT CENTRAL COMMISSION TO IMPLEMENT THE AGREEMENT (JCCIA) TO FORM A SUBCOMMITTEE ON MIA MATTERS AND (B) U.S. EFFORTS TO STIMULATE ACTION THROUGH SUCH MEANS AS VISIT BY ATTACHES AND ICC DELEGATE TO JCRC HEADQUARTERS AND LABORATORY AT SAMAE-SAN AND CIRCULATION OF LOCALLY PREPARED BROCHURE ENTITLED "TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF LOCATING AND IDENTIFYING CRASH SITEA AND MISSING PERSONS IN LAOS."

2. GROUP MET WITH INTERNATIONAL CONTROL COMMISSION AND INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS DELEGATES, U.S. DEFENSE ATTACHE, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 VIENTI 02397 071417Z

AND CHRISTIAN AND MISSIONARY ALLIANCE (CMA) BOARD

REPRESENTATIVE TO LAOS. GROUP ALSO CALLED ON VIENTIANE SIDE REPRESENTATIVE TO THE JCCIA AND MET WITH COLONEL PHAO BOUNNAPHOL, CHIEF, LPF SIDE JCCIA MIA SUBCOMMITTEE.

3. ATTEMPTS TO ARRANGE CALLS ON PRIME MINISTER AND PRINCE SOUPHANOUVONG WERE UNSUCCESSFUL. FORMER HAD FULL SCHEDULE. DATE OF LATTER'S RETURN FROM SAM NEUA WAS UNCERTAIN, SO HIS OFFICE COULD NOT ARRANGE CALL. OFFICE DID INFORM US THAT SHOU PHANOUVONG WAS EXPECTED RETURN TO LUANG PRABANG ON MARCH 31 OR APRIL 1 SO GROUP WENT THERE IN EVENT PRINCE RETURNED ON ANTICIPATED DATE, BUT HE DID NOT. (SOUPHANOUVONG ULTIMATELY RETURNED TO VIENTIANE AFTERNOON APRIL 3, WITHOUT STOPPING OVER IN LUANG PRABANG.) KHMER AMBASSADOR WAS UNAVAILABLE, AND DRV AMBASSADOR REFUSED TO RECEIVE MIA GROUP.

4. MIA GROUP VISITED CHILDREN'S SECTION OF ORTHOPEDIC HOSPITAL AND WERE GIVEN TOUR OF FACILITIES BY DIRECTOR. GROUP MEMBERS HAD DONATED CLOTHES AND TOYS IN PAST AND WERE INTERESTED IN DETERMINING TYPE OF SUPPORT THAT COULD BE PROVIDED IN FUTURE.

5. MISS CAROL BATES, MEMBER OF GROUP AND VIVA OFFICIAL, HAD -- IN ADDITION TO DETERMINING CURRENT STATUS OF MIA EFFORTS -- GOAL OF ATTEMPTING TO DEVELOP NEW APPROACH TO SUPPORT FORTHCOMING VIVA FUND DRIVE. HER FAILURE, AS SHE PUT IT, TO DEVELOP A NEW "GIMMICK" TO ENSURE THE CONTINUATION OF VIVA WAS OF SIGNIFICANT CONCERN TO HER AND MAY INFLUENCE HER ACCOUNT OF TRIP.

6. AT CONCLUSION OF VISIT, GROUP EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR EMBASSY EFFORTS. THEY WERE PLEASED WITH OUR VARIOUS APPROACHES DEVELOPED TO ADDRESS MIA MATTERS BUT CONCURRENTLY DISTURBED BY LACK OF LPF RESPONSE WHEN MIA ISSUES RAISED IN JCCIA; E.G., FAILURE EVEN TO PROVIDE MIA LISTS IN EXCHANGE FOR THOSE FURNISHED BY U.S. AND FAR. EVENTS IN CAMBODIA AND SOUTH VIET-NAM DURING GROUP'S VISIT HERE FURTHER DEEPENED THEIR GLOOM ABOUT FUTURE MIA RESOLUTION AND RECOVERY EFFORTS.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 VIENTI 02397 071417Z

7. ALL FOUR MEMBERS OF GROUP WERE INTERESTED IN DEBUNKING ALLEGATION MADE BY ROD NORBERG IN HIS OCTOBER 1974 "REPORT" TO VIVA AND OTHERS. COMMENTS BY A DAO OFFICER, AND BY CMA REPRESENTATIVE CLEMENT R. DREGER, CONCERNING SUTHI, A LOCAL LAO FABRICATOR WHO HAS APPARENTLY DEALT WITH NORBERG, ASSISTED GREATLY IN HELPING GROUP UNDERSTAND SOURCE OF SOME OF NORBERG'S WILD AND PATHETICLY RIDICULOUS CLAIMS TO BE ABLE TO RESOLVE MIA CASES.

WHITEHOUSE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MIA, SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS, VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975VIENTI02397
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750120-0513
From: VIENTIANE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750473/aaaacpka.tel
Line Count: 116
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 VIENTIANE 2235
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <18 JUL 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <22 JUL 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MIA GROUP
TAGS: MOPS, CASC, LA, VN
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006